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SI-MFS Workshop



# **Ukama Ustawi (UU): Diversification for Resilient Agribusiness Ecosystems in East and Southern Africa (ESA)**

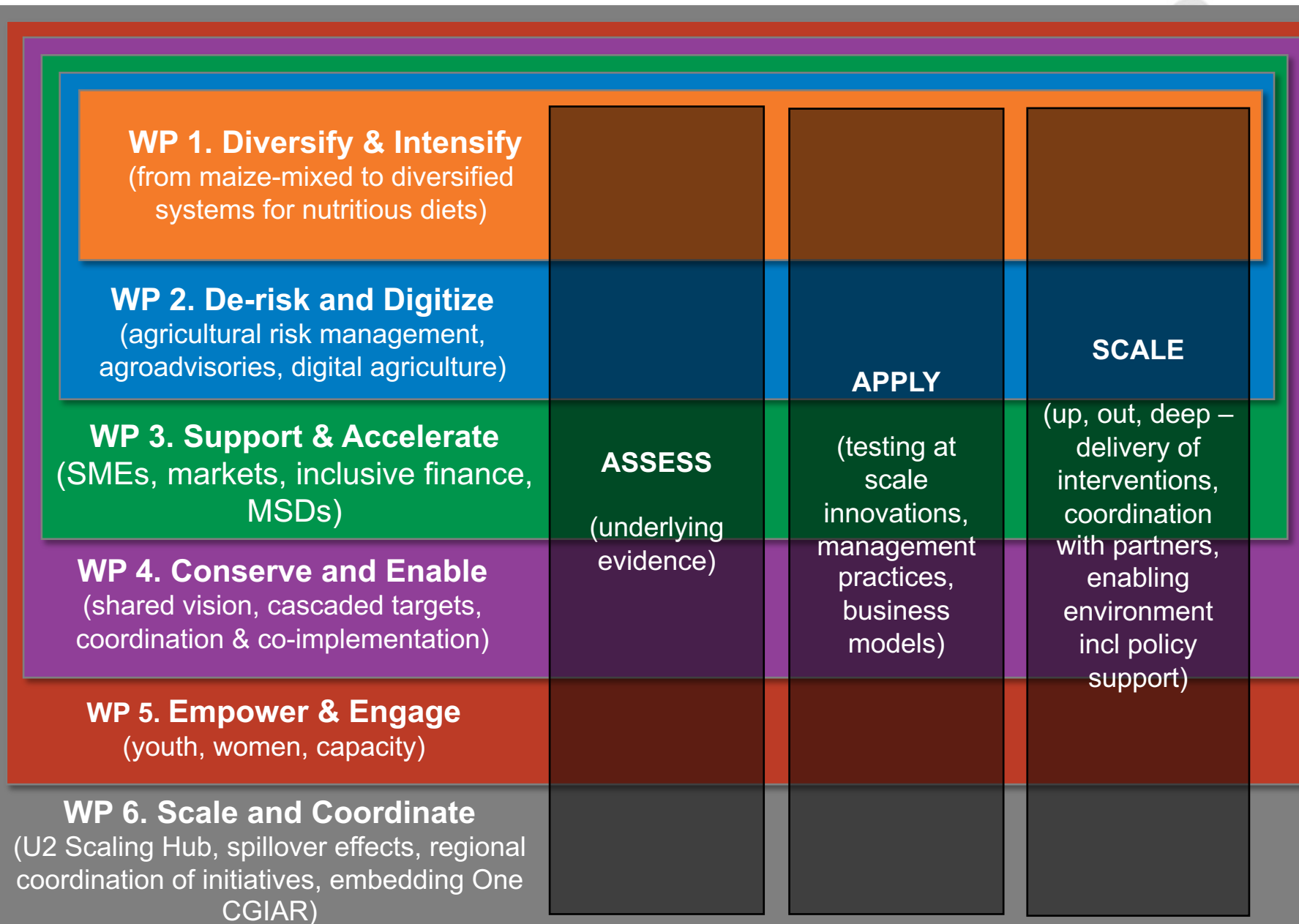
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# Ukama Ustawi (U<sup>2</sup>) Diversification for Resilient Agribusiness Ecosystems in ESA



## Initiative Work Packages



### One CGIAR Impact Areas

Nutrition, health and food security

Climate adaptation and mitigation

Gender Equality, Youth and Social Inclusion

Poverty Reduction, Livelihoods and Jobs

Environmental health, water security, and biodiversity

# WP 1: Diversify and Sustainably Intensify



WP1 focuses on doing **research and collaborating with targeted farmers**, partners/service providers in order to create a number of compelling conditions for enabling farmers to include proven options for diversifying their maize-based systems successfully into more diverse, more nutritious and more resilient/sustainable mixed farming systems, and **scaling these options** by collaborating with relevant NGO, private sector and government actors who are responsible for aligning policies, investments, mechanisation, seed, advisory and irrigation delivery systems with this diversification drive.



## Key Challenges

- **Maize-based systems still dominate**, but are increasingly vulnerable, degraded and poorly managed, with low yields
- **Climate hot-spot**: High climate vulnerability and risk
- **Lack of diverse diets** and high levels of malnutrition in maize-based systems



## Intermediary Outcomes

**Assess** - U2 partners have an improved understanding about successful climate-smart sustainable intensification technologies and packages, entry points, suitability maps and their opportunities for enhancing the agri-business environment, to be used in target countries and regions under varying contexts.

**Apply** – Smallholder farmers in target communities enabled by private sector entities of Eastern and Southern Africa are regularly using climate smart sustainable intensification, mechanization, irrigation, and animal husbandry practices in their day-to-day farming activities. Nutrient-dense crops and diversification strategies are used by farmers and the general population towards more healthy diets.

**Scale** – Scaling partners have increased their knowledge and capacity and are using suitable extension and delivery models for diversifying & intensifying agri-food systems



## Innovations

- Maize for healthy diets: **Integrated maize-legume intensification**
- Greening maize for healthy incomes: **smallholder irrigation for winter vegetable production**
- Maize diversification for healthy animal nutrition: **Fodder production for dry-season feed**
- Maize intensification for a healthy environment: **Climate-smart SI practice bundles**
- Maize mechanization for healthy businesses: **Mechanized operations established through service provider models**



## Partners

- CG centres
- NARS and national universities
- NGOs (e.g., Total LandCare)
- Private sector (e.g., Kurima Machinery, Zimplough, SNV.Aquaculture Zimbabwe, Hello Tractor/John Deere)
- Existing initiatives: AfricaRISING, TAAT, PABRA

## End of initiative outcome (2024)

**50,000 farmers/value chain actors/consumers have begun to transition from maize-mixed systems to more diversified, integrated and resilient climate-smart farming systems**, on a path towards resilience, soil fertility, sustainable land and water management practices, ultimately resulting in higher productivity, profitability, and nutrition. Regional scaling hub catalyses this transformation by leveraging partnerships and providing fit-for-purpose innovation-bundle delivery models.

# **THANK YOU!**

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